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THE

BRITISH CRITIC,

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FOR

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE,

MDCCCIX.

Πολλοὶ θριοβόλοι, παῦροι δέ γε μάντιες ἄνδρες.

ADAG. GRÆC.

VOLUME XXXIII.

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PREFACE.

Σοὶ τόνδε πλεκτὸν στέφανον ἐξ ἀκηράτου
Λειμῶνος,

TO thee, reader, do we offer now our thirty-third Anthology, compoſed of the flowers of Britiſh Literature; flowers as little likely to fade as any that can have been gathered elſewhere within the ſame period; nay, by far leſs likely, if the domeſtic peace which we almoſt excluſively enjoy, in the preſent diſtracted ſtate of Europe, be more favourable to letters than the alarms of hoſtile troops, of marches and countermarches, the dread of conſcriptions, or the ſtill worſe dread of ſubjugation. While we write, the fate of Europe is ſuſpended on the banks of the Danube; and probably before we can print, will have undergone its deciſion. How awful a moment! Yet here it is a period of book writing, book collecting, and book reviewing *, more undoubtedly than ever. Behold then the ſelections of the laſt half year.

* New reviews ſtart up every month, but let us be allowed to obſerve, that *ſelecting Reviews* give little idea of the general ſtate of literature; and that thoſe which ſelect chiefly what is reprehenſible, give *no idea* of what is fit to be procured. We notice more books in a month, than ſome of theſe ſelectors in a year.

DIVINITY.

We begin with the work of a Biſhop, and we delight to do ſo. If the illiberal ſay that we pay the reſpect to rank alone, let them look at the tract in queſtion, and be aſhamed. We ſpeak of the *Biſhop of Durham's* tract on *the Grounds of our Separation* * from the Church of Rome; a book no leſs clear in argument than important in ſubject; and one which would have been deciſive, could any arguments decide a queſtion with ſuch opponents as the Biſhop here encounters. The Biſhop of *Glouceſter's Call for Union* †, enlarged by new and valuable matter, deſerved alſo our renewed notice, and we returned with pleaſure to a work ſo peculiarly wanted at the preſent day.

To thoſe who are deſirous to eſtabliſh all the foundations of their faith on evidence, we cannot eaſily recommend a more acceptable work than the *Lectures on the Pentateuch*, by *Dr. Graves* ‡, of Dublin College. The evidences for the Goſpel have been given in various popular forms; thoſe which atteſt the divine commiſſion of Moſes have either been ſeldom collected, or involved in too much learned diſputation for general uſe. This deficiency may be well ſupplied by the preſent work. The *Life of St. Paul*, as publiſhed by *Mr. Bevan*, a reſpectable Quaker §, we do not heſitate to place among works of divinity, being drawn entirely from the ſacred books, and including the Epiſtles of St. Paul within the narrative of his Life. Sacred biography is divinity, and this is a valuable ſpecimen of their union. The book entitled *Zeal without Innovation* ‖ is addreſſed principally to the Clergy, and contains aſſuredly many highly valuable ſuggeſtions. If we do not agree with

* No. IV. p. 368. † No. I. p. 31. ‡ No. IV. p. 375.
§ No. V. p. 476. ‖ No. VI. p. 560.

the

the author in all his ideas of ſome modern teachers, yet we view his picture of the true Church of England with unqualified approbation and delight. To the republication of *Philip Skelton's Works* *, by Mr. Clapham, we cannot but wiſh ſucceſs. He is an author always praiſed by the learned, and in the preſent day too little known to others.

Of diſcourſes ſeparately publiſhed, this half year has brought forward ſeveral, which deſerve a further notice. When we mention the firſt of theſe, to which too much praiſe cannot be given, *the Charge of the Biſhop of Bangor* to his dioceſe, in 1808 †, we feel that we have a double taſk of duty to perform; to hail the nomination of ſuch a teacher to the moſt important ſee, that is not archiepiſcopal, and to lament the death, though mature in years and Chriſtian graces, of his much honoured predeceſſor. Of the late Biſhop of London, though thouſands can atteſt the mild and amiable virtues, the unbounded benevolence, the ſincere and heartfelt piety, yet we may diſpute with all, the privilege of having ſeen and known them, by near and perſonal obſervation, during a long ſeries of years, in which we were honoured with his friendſhip. That ſuch friends muſt be loſt, and ſuch lights of the Church in their turn extinguiſhed, is a part of that general law, under which all men and all their ſocieties ſubſiſt. That ſuch a loſs can be ſo repaired is a felicity to the Church in which it is ſeen to happen.

Diſcourſes on the 30th of January have ſometimes been the vehicles of bigotry or prejudice, religious or political; but clearly free from all ſuch ingredients is that of the *Biſhop of Oxford* ‡, delivered before the Houſe of Lords. The union of chriſtian duty with the higheſt political ſituations is there judiciouſly delineated. *Dean Woodhouſe's* Sermon *at St. Paul's* §

* No. I. p. 42. † No. II. p. 135. ‡ No. VI. p. 641.
§ No. V. p. 582.

was chiefly employed in recommending that ſyſtem of general education for the lower claſſes, which we have ſince more fully deſcribed *. There is now, we believe, no doubt that it anſwers, in moſt points that can be deſired, and is likely to be very extenſively adopted. On the occaſion of an Ordination in an Epiſcopal Church, not eſtabliſhed in the country where it ſubſiſts †, we find *Mr. Horſley* diſcourſing very ably on the duties of that office, which his father bore with ſo much honour, and paying a juſt tribute to merit in the Biſhop there appointed ‡. The Charge of *Mr. Archdeacon Cambridge* to the Clergy of Middleſex §, is ſatisfactory as a ſtatement of facts, no leſs than as a recommendation of duties; and we ſee with pleaſure the reſult of the ſuperintendence of the late Biſhop, and the attention of the Clergy. Among occaſional Sermons, we were particularly pleaſed with that of *Mr. Baynes* ‖, on the Faſt, for the ſound and practical utility of its inſtructions to the common people, on the ſubject of a ſtate of warfare; a ſtate too dreadfully experienced at preſent in Germany. May that Providence, which has ſo long averted it from our fields, continue the bleſſing to us!

MORALITY.

Of rather a doubtful character is a work to which we paid ſome attention, the *Enquiries* of *Mr. Hugh Murray* into *the Character of Nations* ¶. The collections of the author are extenſive, and often curious; his opinions ſometimes paradoxical, and to our apprehenſion unſound. It is a work rather for the philoſopher to conſider, than for the ſtudent to adopt, and in that light only we recommend it. An anony-

* *Dr. Bell's.* See No. VI. p. 575. † *Scotland.* ‡ *Dr. Gleig.* No. II. p. 193. § No. III. p. 310. ‖ No. V. p. 532. ¶ No. I. p. 60.

mous

mous work, ſtyled *Sketches of Truth* *, has in it much of learned and much of ſagacious remark. When the author ſhall have retouched, and made it what we ſhould ſuppoſe him capable of making it, we ſhall probably ſee it republiſhed, with the ſanction of ſome reſpectable name.

Law.

We feel ourſelves in ſome degree defaulters, as to this important branch of learning; the reaſon of which is, we believe, that our legal critics have become too buſy lawyers to attend ſufficiently to our concerns. We wiſh not worſe fortune to our friends, but better to ourſelves. In the mean time, we ſhall mention, as a work of conſiderable utility and value, lately commenced, *Mr. Campbell's Reports of Caſes at Niſi Prius* †, intended to be regularly continued; and we congratulate the profeſſion on an acquiſition of ſo much value.

Our other works, which may be brought under this head, are merely extra-profeſſional diſcuſſions on particular topics, connected with legiſlation. Such are, for inſtance, *Mr. B. Dudley's* tract *on Tithes* ‡, *Dr. Booker's Addreſs to the Legiſlature* §, on various ſubjects of importance, particularly the Toleration Act; and an anonymous Letter on the latter ſubject ‖. Of theſe it may be ſaid collectively, that they are the productions of thinking men; and if not in all points demanding aſſent, yet in many well worthy of conſideration. The anonymous Speech *on the Catholic Petition*, which, as its title ſays, *ought to have been ſpoken* ¶, might ſurely have been delivered, with very ſalutary effect, but that its author, perhaps, might not be a member of the houſe.

* No. III. p. 238. † No. II. p. 187. ‡ No. III. p. 300.
§ No. VI. p. 625. ‖ No. IV. p. 412. ¶ No. IV. p. 414.

History.

We concluded in the preſent volume our account of a work, written, not, like many others, for temporary effect only, but for perpetuity, *Mr. Coxe's Hiſtory of the Houſe of Auſtria* *. In the glorious ſtruggle which that Houſe is now making, for its own independence and that of Europe, who will not feel that a new intereſt is beſtowed upon the ſubject? What true Briton will not wiſh, with us, that materials may be wrought for a more triumphant page to Auſtria, than even Mr. Coxe's book contains! The prelude we have had at *Aſpern*, the ſequel is perhaps now acting; what wiſhes or what prayers can be ſufficiently fervent for the ſucceſs of the Houſe of Auſtria! As a hiſtory, more like romance than ever hiſtory was before, and yet, as we are aſſured, genuine, let us notice *the Chronicle of the Cid* †, publiſhed by *Mr. Southey*. We confeſs that it very ſtrongly arreſted our attention, and repaid that attention by much entertainment. *M. Baron Maſeres* has called forth the long celebrated "Encomium Emmæ," and ſeveral other Norman records, relating to Engliſh hiſtory, from the obſcurity of Ducheſne's ſcarce volume ‡; and has added the illuſtration of many curious notes, from his own pen. In doing this, he has rendered an eſſential ſervice to Engliſh hiſtory; which alſo, though in a very different way, *Lord Lonſdale* has effected, by bringing forward the authentic *Memoir of* his noble anceſtor §, reſpecting the reign of James II. It was intended to be given to Mr. Fox, as materials for his promiſed hiſtory; but is certainly much more intereſting in its native and unadulterated form. We rejoice to ſee the gradual in-

* No. I. p. 48. and IV. p. 344. † No. V. p. 458. VI. p. 610. ‡ No. IV. p. 372. § No. V. p. 467.

creaſe

creaſe of theſe authentic documents, by the voluntary publication of memoirs long preſerved in families. We ſhall in time, perhaps, be competently ſtored with treaſures of this kind. Still more minute fragments of public hiſtory are exhibited in the narrative of *Major André's* death, by *Mr. Smith* *, and that of the Siege of *Zaragoza* (uſually written *Saragoſſa*) by *Mr. Vaughan* †. The former is a melancholy picture of hoſtile inveteracy, among thoſe who ought to have been brothers; the other ſuch an example of patriotic courage and ſelf-devotion as cannot be ſurpaſſed, and will not often be equalled. May the ſame ſpirit be rouſed in every corner of Spain!

With the generality of civil hiſtories we cannot ſurely claſs *Mr. Clarkſon's Hiſtory of the Abolition of the Slave Trade* ‡; yet what Engliſh hiſtory can in future fail to notice a tranſaction ſo extenſive in its conſequences, ſo characteriſtic of the ſpirit and feelings of Engliſhmen? And who that ſpeaks of it at all can decline to take his materials from this moſt authentic memoir? Mr. Clarkſon was, in almoſt every part of it, a perſonal witneſs, and his teſtimony is beyond the reach of ſuſpicion.

Biography.

A modern and an ancient Engliſh life, each of conſiderable intereſt in its way, form the chief biographical ornaments of our preſent volume. Of theſe, the modern life, that of *Lord Macartney*, by *Mr. Barrow* §, exhibits the viciſſitudes of long and active ſervice, in various ſituations of diplomatic confidence or delegated authority; the more ancient the Life of *Sir Philip Sidney*, by *Dr. Zouch* ‖, ſhows us

* No. II. p. 119. † No. V. p. 526. ‡ No. I. p. 18.
§ No. III. p. 209. ‖ No. IV. p. 382.

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the ingenious writer, the active warrior, the very mirror of courteſy and knighthood, cut off at an early period of life, and dying the death of a Chriſtian. The attempt made by the late Lord Orford, to depreciate the character of Sir Ph. Sidney, is here very ably counteracted. The Life of *Captain Rogers*, by *Mr. Gilpin* *, is calculated, not to reſtore, but to confer a juſt celebrity; and holds forth an example, which can no where have more chance of being followed than in the Britiſh Navy. In the *Memoirs* of Mrs. Schuyler, an *American Lady*, *Mrs. Grant* † has not indeed equalled her own "Letters from the Mountains," but has produced a work of ſome intereſt. The few memorials of *Profeſſor Porſon*, which were publiſhed by *Dr. A. Clarke* ‡, are calculated rather to ſatisfy an immediate curioſity, than to furniſh materials for the biographer.

As lives and hiſtories have occaſionally been formed chiefly or entirely of letters, ſo do collections of private letters eſſentially pertain to biography; nor have we often ſeen any in which more of perſonal character is conveyed than in the Letters of *Biſhop Warburton* §. We regret only that they are ſo few, and ſhow us ſo much leſs than laudable curioſity requires. *Mrs. Talbot's Letters* are a proper appendage to the Life of *Mrs. Carter* ‖, whoſe character, no leſs amiable than uncommon, deſerves at leaſt all the attention it has obtained.

Antiquities and Topography.

The ſplendid and learned work on *Magna Græcia*, *Mr. Wilkins, jun.* ¶, partakes of both theſe ſubjects; which are, as we have often remarked, almoſt inſe-

* No. VI. p. 607. † No. IV. p. 346. ‡ No. IV. p. 426.
§ No. III. p. 223. ‖ No. IV. p. 358. ¶ No. V. p. 433.

parable

parable. Mr. Wilkins appears to be animated by the true ſpirit of reſearch, and will doubtleſs proceed to throw further light on the remains of Grecian architecture. *Dr. E. D. Clarke*, another of the ſeveral travellers, whom a love of ancient art has lately carried into Greece, has been the deſcriber of thoſe *Greek Marbles* * which he, Mr. Walpole, and others have brought over, and depoſited in the public Library at Cambridge. We rejoice in theſe peaceful acceſſions to our literary ſtores, more than we ſhould in all the plunder at the Tuilleries. Of *Mr. Polwhele's Antiquities of Devonſhire* † an accident has ſuſpended our account; but we have had occaſion to approve as far as we have proceeded. An Account of the *Cathedral of Ely*, by *Mr. Millers* ‡, a member of that church, has thrown additional light, not only on the antiquities of the place, but on the progreſs of Gothic Architecture. Though the book is not large, the illuſtrations are neat and ſatisfactory. *Mr. Malcolm* having completed his *Antiquities of London*, in four volumes quarto, has alſo compiled a fifth on the Manners and Cuſtoms of the place during the laſt century §. It may, however, be conſidered either as a ſeparate work, or as a completion of the former undertaking. As a diligent collector this author has not often been ſurpaſſed; and there muſt be labourers to dig out materials, as well as architects to build with them.

VOYAGES AND TRAVELS.

Fertile as this claſs uſually has been, we have at preſent only one conſiderable article to notice in it. This is *Mr. Cordiner's Deſcription of Ceylon* ‖; a work

* No. VI. p. 599. † No. IV. p. 321. ‡ No. I. p. 1.
§ No. I. p. 39. ‖ No. I. p. 4.

not

not altogether neceſſary, after ſome that had before appeared, but illuſtrated by ſeveral engravings; and beſtowing, in ſome inſtances at leaſt, original information. *Mr. Brooke's* account * of *St. Helena* was more perhaps of a deſideratum; which, conſidering how long we have poſſeſſed the iſland, may be thought extraordinary. True it is that it has fewer curioſities to boaſt, and though very convenient to the ſailor, has but little dignity in the eyes of the geographer. The *Pictures*, as they are called, of *Valentia* † and *Liſbon* ‡, are ſuch mere ſketches, that it is ſufficient merely to point out their exiſtence, at a time when any repreſentations of Spain or Portugal muſt naturally be ſought for. The ſame cannot be ſaid of Scotland, which has been ſo often travelled and deſcribed by Engliſhmen; nevertheleſs there are entertaining qualities in *Sir John Carr's Caledonian Sketches* §, which will make them acceptable to not a ſmall claſs of readers.

Natural Philoſophy and History.

Under this extenſive title we can include much; from the univerſality of the *Philoſophical Tranſactions* ‖, to the particularity of a ſeparate treatiſe on a ſingle object. The completion of *Profeſſor Martyn's* great work, the republication of *Miller's Dictionary* ¶, forms a kind of æra among productions of this kind. At once philoſophical and practical, it comprehends a body of botanical and horticultural knowledge, ſuch as, we believe, no where elſe exiſts in one ſyſtem. Another arduous work is ſtill in progreſs, but begins to look forward to its concluſion: we mean *Dr. Shaw's General Zoology* **, a work, which, whether

* No. VI. p. 623. † No. I. p. 88. ‡ No. II. p. 201.
§ No. VI. p. 590. ‖ No. II. p. 97. and III. 254.
¶ No. II. p. 143. ** No. V. p. 494.

we

we conſider the comprehenſiveneſs of its plan, or the accuracy and beauty of its execution, ſeems almoſt to preclude all competition. It has extended to ſeven double volumes, and is rapidly proceeding. *Dr. Kidd's Outlines of Mineralogy* * is another work of much comprehenſion. So greatly has that ſcience, including that which is called Geology, been extended in modern times, that to give a clear and compreſſed view of its various branches was a work of obvious utility, and worthy of an academical profeſſor. Yet even while the work was in the preſs the diſcoveries of Davy were producing new wonders; and pointing out metals where they were never before ſuſpected to exiſt †; and poſſeſſed of properties ſuch as no other metals had exhibited. In the mean time, a Scientific Syſtem of *Aſtronomy* was receiving its completion, under the hands of *Profeſſor Vince* at Cambridge ‡. Two volumes had been long before the public, and the third leaves nothing for the ſtudent to require. *Mr. Donovan's* work on *Britiſh Inſects* § has been extended now to twelve volumes, and is ſtill proceeding. We rejoice that the inveſtigation of various parts of our native Zoology is in the hands of a naturaliſt ſo able and ſo perſevering; and we look to the completion of his various deſigns, as likely to form a diſtinguiſhed monument of elegance and accuracy. We ſay with regret, that *Mr. Bent's Meteorogical Journals* ‖ are not promiſed to be continued, when we conſider how ſatisfactory a record they contained, for the years in which they were drawn up. The little tract on the *Swallow*, under the aſſumed name of *Philo-chelidon* ¶, treats a curious ſubject in a rational and pleaſing manner.

* No. VI. p. 545.

† *Potaſſium* and *Sodium*, the baſes of potaſh and ſoda, complete metals, yet conſiderably lighter than water.

‡ No. III. p. 246. § No. I. p. 13. ‖ No. III. p. 302.
¶ No. II. p. 186.

MEDICINE.

Here we find a deficiency: whether from our fault or that of the profeſſion we will not pretend to ſay. We have noted only three works which ſeem to demand a ſecond notice. The firſt is from *Dr. Badham*, who inveſtigates the *Inflammatory Affections of the Bronchiæ* *, if not altogether as a diſcoverer, yet with philoſophical and juſt arrangement, giving the new generic name of *Bronchitis*, with proper ſpecific diſtinctions. Of a more popular nature is the *Dictionary of Domeſtic Medicine*, publiſhed by *Dr. Reece* †. We are not great friends to the empirical practice of private individuals, but where circumſtances and ſituations make it neceſſary, ſuch a manual cannot fail to be found convenient.

In the Surgical department, *Mr. Wardrop's Eſſays on the Morbid Anatomy of the Human Eye* afford a valuable acceſſion to profeſſional knowledge ‡. They may be conſidered indeed as addreſſed to the ſcientific Anatomiſt, and connected, as a link of the ſame important chain, with Dr. Baillie's Morbid Anatomy. Such works we ſhould ill perform our office if we did not particularly diſtinguiſh.

LITERATURE.

In this department we cannot often expect to meet with a work of ſo much united labour, learning, and acuteneſs, as that of *Mr. Middleton* §, on the *Doctrine of the Greek Article*. In applying his principles to every part of the New Teſtament, the ſagacious author has given a ſpecimen of critical reſearch which muſt

* No. IV. p. 418. † No. IV. p. 366. ‡ No. II. p. 141.
§ No. III. p. 284.

for

for ever bear teſtimony to his merit. Why ſuch inveſtigations ſhould not ultimately put an end to heterodoxy, we can ſee little reaſon, but in the perverſeneſs of human nature. *Dr. Gregory* is a writer whom we have often commended when living, and we certainly ſhall not now deny him that juſtice, though it cannot ſoothe "the dull, cold ear of death." *His Letters on Literature* * are creditable, though a poſthumous publication, both to his induſtry and talents. They are not to be claſſed with thoſe ſweepings of a learned man's ſtudy, which a real regard to his memory would ſuppreſs. There can be little fear, while the preſent taſte for books continues, that ſuch a work as *Mr. Beloe's Anecdotes of Literature*, &c. † can ever want encouragement. The man who collects for the public what is really curious, is, in the preſent day, certain of ſucceſs; nor does there appear to be any immediate limit by which ſuch an attempt is circumſcribed. But whatever may be the popularity of an amuſing compiler, we muſt confeſs that a higher praiſe is due to the writer who voluntarily deſcends to the office of an elementary teacher, that he may ſpread the knowledge of that language in which the ancient Scriptures are written. Such are the merits of the learned *Biſhop of St. David's*, in producing a *Hebrew Primer* ‡, and ſeveral other initiatory works relative to that language. The motive cannot be equivocal, when a perſon of that rank ſo labours, and to wiſh ſucceſs to his efforts is only to wiſh well to theological ſtudy. The mode of making a large ſchool teach itſelf, or nearly ſo, muſt be learned from *Dr. Bell*, who, having fully tried the experiment at *Madras* §, is here recommending his plan with the higheſt and moſt deſerved ſucceſs. The method uſed by him,

* No. IV. p. 394. † No. III. p. 288. ‡ No. IV. p. 425.
§ No. VI. p. 575.

and

and by Mr. Lancaſter, appears to remove almoſt every difficulty from the general inſtruction of the lower claſſes. We ſee with pleaſure that the deſign is daily receiving new patronage and encouragement.

POETRY.

If a poet has been generally admired in his detached publications, a collected edition of his works, after his deceaſe, with ſome authentic account of his life, is a tribute which the public expects and never fails to encourage. For that univerſal favourite *Chr. Anſtey* * this taſk has been performed by a ſon †, who inherits no ſmall ſhare of his father's genius, and whoſe piety and juſtice are equally conſpicuous in the publication. The harmleſs playfulneſs of the ſatire for which the Anſteys are famous, conveys an amiable impreſſion of the writers; but it is not equally to the credit of the age that ſevere and biting ſatires ſeem daily to be more cultivated and encouraged. We cannot, however, deny the merit of two which we have lately noticed; the *Simpliciad* ‡, in which the faults of a particular claſs of writers are ſtrongly cenſured; and ſtill leſs of the *Engliſh Bards and Scotch Reviewers* §, though in the latter it ſeems to us that there are ſome attacks as unfair and unmerited as others are vigorous and juſt. We have heard many current reports concerning the author of this maſterly poem, but they all appear to us unfounded. They all point to Cambridge men. Yet the poet ſpeaks of Cambridge as we think no ſon of that Alma Mater could bring himſelf to ſpeak. Among the biting

* No. II. p. 115. † *Mr. John Anſtey*, Author of *the Pleader's Guide.* ‡ No. II. p. 180. § No. IV. p. 410.

ſatires

ſatires we cannot claſs *Dr. Ferriar's Bibliomania* *; it is an elegant ſketch, but the laudative prevails in it beyond the vituperative. Of a mixed kind is *Mr. Heber's Europe* †. It is not profeſſedly a ſatire, yet ſome parts are juſtly ſevere; it is not a panegyric, yet a finer eulogy was never written than the lines conſecrated to the memory of Pitt. It is altogether an animated and animating call to Britain, and the reſt of Europe, to exert themſelves, ere it be too late, againſt the common enemy; and is a production well worthy of the author's prior fame.

In the didactic ſtyle, it is long ſince we were ſo pleaſed with any poem as that by *Mrs. Weſt*, entitled *The Mother* ‡. That five books of precepts ſhould have no weak parts is not to be expected. The Georgics afford perhaps the only inſtance in which that felicity was extended even to four. But the proportion of ſpirited, pleaſing, and pathetic paſſages is ſuch as to do abundant honour to the writer; and the plan and conduct of the whole is good. In a very different line, the *Partenopex* of *Mr. Roſe* § is entitled to much praiſe. It is a lively and ingenious imitation of an amuſing original, and is written in a ſtyle of narrative at once eaſy and poetical. Nor muſt the juſt cenſures of the Simpliciad prevent us from mentioning *Mr. Wordſworth's Poems* ‖.

Dum flueret lutulentus erat quod tollere velles.

If he is often too ſimply ſimple, he is ſometimes what a lover of nature and poetry would wiſh. *Mr. Plumptre's Songs* ¶, as being principally a compilation, can hardly rank with the publications we have here enu-

* No. VI. p. 631. † No. V. p. 522. ‡ No. VI. p. 628.
§ No. IV. p. 331. ‖ No. III. p. 298. ¶ No. V. p. 520.

a merated;

merated; but if a collection be wanted, it is good to have one which is at once judicious and harmleſs.

MISCELLANIES.

Rather than make a number of ſcanty ſubdiviſions, we ſhall here unite ſome very heterogeneous publications. The juſtly popular and very inſtructive tale of *Cælebs* *, and the intereſting fragments in *Proſe and Verſe*, by *Miſs E. Smith* †, muſt be content for once to aſſociate with works on Agriculture, and mere mechanical ſcience. We have examined with pleaſure and approbation *Naiſmith's Elements of Agriculture* ‡, and *Rudge's View of the Agriculture of Glouceſterſhire* §; the former a valuable work of general inſtructions, the other a body of judicious remarks, on the practices and the ſtate of a particular county; both happily free from that which was long the mania of agriculturiſts, an inveterate prejudice againſt the legal proviſion for the Church.

The remaining books, which we have noted, it is in vain to think of uniting by any tie. They are, the *Treatiſe on Telegraphic Communication*, by *Col. John Macdonald* ‖; *D'Arcy Lever's* ingenious and elaborate work on *Practical Seamanſhip* ¶; and *Stower's Printer's Grammar* **. Whoever improves an art or ſcience of great utility, or facilitates the diffuſion of valuable knowledge, deſerves both praiſe and profit. The one we are happy to give, not without hope that it may eventually produce the other. But beſides all this, there is ſomething that moſt authors have in view, and which many of thoſe whom we have enumerated will probably obtain, namely, an immor-

* No. V. p. 481. † No. III. p. 317. ‡ No. I. p. 26.
§ No. V. p. 506. ‖ No. III. p. 314. ¶ No. III. p. 303.
** No. I. p. 89.

tality of renown. This we will deſcribe in the words of an author whom we have accidentally opened ſince we began to write.

" ——— Fato ſine fine ruenti
Mens humana ſuas artes opponit, et illa
Illa immortali Lacheſin virtute repellit,
Ingenio ſupereſſe datur *."

* M. R. Sileſius, apud Seſt. Urſatum in Monum. Patavinis: The whole copy of verſes has peculiar ſpirit and elegance.

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